

The RAYMOND RECORDER HISTORY OF RAYMOND

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B. J. WEAVER, Editor

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By ELIZABETH KING

PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF TRADE 1907-1910

Louis Debenham King, the second son of Thomas O. and Dorcas Debenham King, was born in Collingston, Utah. In 1897 Louis D. was called on a mission to Philadelphia, Penn. He spent 27 months in this field of labor and had been home but a year when he was called to Canada on a six months M.L.A. mission, coming through Raymond in October 1901 and taking up residence in the spring of 1902. He was sustained Superintendent of the Raymond ward Sunday school September 14, 1902, two days before his first child Louis R. was born. In October, 1906 the officers and teachers of the Sunday School surprised Superintendent King in his home and presented him with a red morocco bound book of Shakespeares works and on the fly-leaf it is interesting to note the following names: John F. Anderson Bishop, J. W. Evans, 1st H. C. Jacobs 2nd counselors, T. W. Harris George P. Parker, George H. Higgs, John Powelson, Mabel McCarty, Alberta Jacobs, Wilson McCarty, Mary Smellie, Maud McCarty, Ann Brewerton, Lura Redd, Dessa Johnston, Mary Duke, Dora Davies, Bertha Fisher, Fanny Harris, Vina Nalder, Elsie Clark, Mary Hyde and Ver-na Skouson.

Out of the group but four still remain in Raymond: Fanny Harris (Walker), Elsie Clark (Jaques) Mary Hyde (Rodeback and Louis D. King. In January 1907 Mr. King was made a member of the town council and in the fall of the year he was elected president of the Board of Trade. In an old "Raymond Rustler" edited by David H. Elton in 1907 we read the following:

PRESIDENT BOARD OF TRADE

Upon the Board of Trade devolves a work of great importance and grave responsibilities in connection with the civic officers and Agricultural Societies, we look to the Board of Trade to safeguard the local commercial interests and promote schemes for the welfare of the town and district. As a business man with business interests and business methods, resident King is well prepared and fully equipped for the work. He is thoroughly familiar with the needs of Raymond and understands her situation perfectly. Moreover he is a firm believer in publicity as his business' firm display of Printers Ink will indicate. Supported by strong willing workers there is no reason why the Board of Trade cannot accomplish the work for which its organization was perfected. Respected and esteemed by his fellows, sober intelligent and upright, optimistic for Sunny Southern Alberta and a booster for Raymond, President Louis D. King stands prominently for a bigger and better and more progressive Raymond.

When the Opera House was built in 1909 Mr. King was elected vice president and in 1912 he was made its manager a position he held for several years. In a Raymond paper of March 19, 1929 edited by "Pete" Peterson we read:

HIGHLY COMMENDS RETIRING MANAGER

Dear Mr. Editor:
Since Mr. L. D. King has resigned as Manager of the Raymond Opera House Company please permit me as resident in behalf of the Board of directors and the shareholders of the company our sincere appreciation



for the long and splendid service rendered by him in this position.

When Mr. King accepted the management of the company in 1912 there was a debt of about \$2700, hanging over it. Through his wise and judicious handling of the financial affairs of the company this debt was soon liquidated and a nice credit balance established and maintained.

But notwithstanding his unqualified success in conducting the finances of the company he was more successful in a better way, yes, in a more enduring way, in his management of the dances and entertainments and in the selection of high class performers for the house. The deportment of our young people is a tribute of no small measure to the work done by Mr. King and the effect of his influence for the moral and spiritual uplift of our boys and girls will be an everlasting benefit to them and will stand as an eternal monument to his faithful and efficient service.

May the Lord compensate him for the many sacrifices made. He served freely and received neither praise nor pelt.

J. W. Evans.

Mr. King was also active in Athletics. He was elected president of the Raymond Athletic association in 1922.

When the Raymond ward was divided in 1912 J. W. Evans was sustained bishop with Louis D. King as first and J. H. Walker as second counselors. That same year he was appointed post master, a position he held until May 1st, 1948. He, with 80 other postmasters were presented with a merit badge for their long and faithful service as postmasters.

Mr. King, in connection with his son Shirley owns and operates King Motors garage and Texaco Service Station. From the Raymond Recorder of May, 1946 edited by S.J. Weaver we quote the following: "Last week L. D. King, well known business man in Raymond since 1902 was presented with a bronze plaque bearing the engraving: "Presented to L. D. King in appreciation of twenty five years association with the Ford Motor Company of Canada Ltd., 1921 to 1946 and signed by W. R. Camberl. The presentation was made by the Alberta manager of the company and at the same time L.D. was presented with a Longines wrist watch with the above engraving on the back. L. D. sold his first Ford car in 1915 when he and George Green were in the garage business. In 1921 L. D. bought out his partners share and since that time has carried the Ford banner in the Raymond district.

In October, 1946 Douglas B. Greig

of Windsor Ontario president of the Ford Motor Company of Canada called upon Mr. King at King Motors and congratulated him upon attaining twenty five years as a dealer of the company in this district."

Four sons and four daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. L. D. King: Louis R. of Seattle, Harold T. Cardston; Mrs. O. H. Hill, Bremerton Wash.; Shirley W., Raymond; Mrs. F.W. Mullett, Cedar City, Utah; Mrs. N. W. Wing, American Fork; Donald, (died in infancy) Mrs. Wm. Nehew, Raymond.

New Dayton

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Newman are spending the summer months in Winnipeg.

Mr. Dann and daughter Mildred and son Bobby of Vulcan were week end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Kurty.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Shaw and daughter Donna Marie of Calgary have been visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Kaupp and family for the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto G. Cronkrite returned home after spending the past few days at Waterton.

Miss Vera Cross returned to Lethbridge where she has been taking a nursing course after spending the past few weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Jess J. Cross.



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